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Man Charged With Murder in Mistaken Identity Case

An 18-year-old man was charged today with murdering a woman in South Los Angeles he thought had been in a fight with his mother, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jose Alberto Perez (dob 10/11/96) was charged with one count each of murder and assault with a deadly weapon as well as special weapon allegations in case BA434741. He is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

On March 18, Perez is accused of bringing a shotgun to his stepfather's house in the 300 block of W. 56th Street. Prosecutors said Perez mistook his stepfather's girlfriend for someone who had previously been in an altercation with his mom.

Perez confronted 35-year-old Yesenia DeLeon and allegedly shot her once in the face, killing her. As Perez left the house, he is accused of firing his gun outside. No one was injured.

Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$2 million. If convicted as charged, Perez faces up to 25 years to life in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.